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The PC Chronicle

Vol. 19 No. 23 Monday, March 5, 2001

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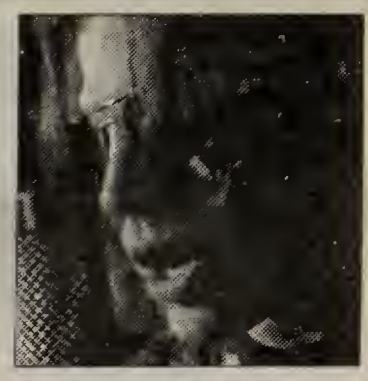

Students and faculty plan for spring break

Photo by Skye Enyeart

Traveling abroad can be just as sunworthy as the United States. Shown here is Monaco, the principality on the French Riviera.

ANTHONY PRUITT
Staff Writer

With Spring Break just around the corner for PUC students, some students have begun planning what they're going to do.

Some students have talked to their families and friends about what can be done for break.

"I talked to my mom about letting me go to my aunts so I can be around my cousins who are a lot like me," Katie Mauch, a freshman majoring in English, said. "Besides, they live in a warmer climate and that is so much better than staying where it's cold and dreary all the time."

Though some students are still unsure of what they are doing for break, others have it planned out to the best of their ability.

"My friends and I were just probably going to see a band and just get away so we aren't bored," Brandon Norris, a freshman majoring in criminal justice, said.

Norris also said his plans are always subject to change without notice.

"We have it fairly planned out, or at least, it's the most we could think of thus far. Things could always change," Norris said.

Students are not the only people who benefit from the week's vacation. Faculty and staff also profit a vacation.

"I am going home back to North Dakota," Gina Guntenkunst, a graduate student and aide in the Behavioral Sciences department, said.

Spring Break can give most students and faculty a break from work and classes. A few offices and departments will remain open during Spring Break to ensure that when the students and faculty return to the campus, everything will be in order.

"Spring Break is nice because it gives people a break from school," Guntenkunst said.

Though it is meant to give students a break, it isn't always easy for some students at PUC to adjust to the extra free time.

"If I cannot go to my aunt's house that means I'll be stuck here without anything to do," Mauch said.

Some students won't have too much to worry about if they cannot make any major plans.

"Well, if it does not happen to work out, I'll just hang around the house all day," Mauch said. "I am taking time off from work so then I don't have to worry about that either. This is time for me to relax."

Some students are getting excited for this break, which signifies

See Spring break, Page 5

Seminar gives global business insight

ANTHONY PRUITT
Staff Writer

A free seminar on the fundamentals of international marketing will start on campus Tuesday, March 27.

The seminar will offer workshops in the basic functions of business, including financing, government assistance and marketing.

The seminar will be held every Tuesday for five consecutive weeks beginning at 5:30 p.m. in LAWS-305.

The seminar is held for all PUC students, but interested community members are welcome to attend.

"The seminar is basically open to anyone who wants to attend. It's for those who may or may not be interested in business," Wes Lukoshus, director of university relations, said.

There will be at least 15 companies attending the seminar who will provide guest speakers as representatives to answer any inquiries someone might have and to establish a business attitude and gain understanding of how it works. The guest speakers will be active throughout the workshop.

Some of the speakers will come from all across the country to attend this seminar.

"The speakers are specialists in their own field and come from all over the nation," Harry Lepinske, director of PUC's Center for International Research and Education and International Business Develop-ment Programs, said. "We have someone coming from the U.S. Department of Commerce and someone who is a consultant for major medical equipment."

The "Fundamentals of International Marketing" seminar will be held every Tuesday for five consecutive weeks beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Lawshe Hall, room 305.

"Primarily they (the speakers) are geared toward employees," Lukoshus said. "It can help an individual to develop good marketing plans."

Harry Lepinske said the whole purpose of the seminar is to assist people in their knowledge of marketing and exporting.

"It's because marketing depends on exports, so we are going to cover. the commerce system, legal and cultural aspects, how to negotiate and letter of credits," Lepinske said.

Individuals who complete the workshop will receive a certificate showing that they completed the seminar.

"In other words, they will receive a document stating that they had taken the seminar, but it is not accredited, it is more for business, not for academics," Lepinske said.

Although only a few students have heard about the seminar, some feel that it will fill up quickly.

"If I didn't have work and all my school work, I'd take it in a heart beat, but I just can't right now," Greg Nieckula, a freshman with an undecided major, said.

"It'll probably be packed seeing as how business is our economy's backbone and that's one of the primary studies here (at PUC)."

Lepinske also believes that the seminar will attract a good turnout.

"It's going to be successful or so far that I can tell," Lepinske said. "We have had people drive at least 60 miles for a seminar like this, maybe even more; it'll be a good round about of people, always has."

Club ESU will sponsor a three on three basketball tournament Tuesday, March 27 at 6 p.m. Call 989-2175.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Being entrepreneurial in response to change

In a recent Office of Administrative Services newsletter, Vice Chancellor Gary Newsom reported on the importance of entrepreneurship in response to a changing environment.

With new Purdue President Jischke more and more administering his mark on the Purdue University system, the ripple of change is beginning to manifest itself on our campus. Count on change to be even more pronounced when a successor to retiring Chancellor Yackel comes aboard this summer.

It is from those perspectives that Vice Chancellor Newsom wrote the following message:

> *A definite time of change is upon us. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to address the topic of entrepreneurship.*
>
> *What is entrepreneurship? (It) is the act of organizing, managing and assuming the risk of a business or enterprise. In order to provide services with the most value to the customer, Administrative Services' leadership must act as entrepreneurs.*
>
> *Think about some entrepreneurs you may know. What are some of their characteristics? Tenacity and persistence. Confidence. Initiative and need for achievement. Most of all, they know their business. They know their customers and their competition. They know their mission, vision, values and goals. They know their budget, their employees, and their facilities.*
>
> *Why entrepreneurship? Why are we looking to this new initiative? The answer is simple. We want to demonstrate to the State of Indiana, the students, our primary customers and to ourselves that we have optimum utilization of the resources entrusted to us.*
>
> *Each department will prepare and maintain a Performance Excellence Portfolio, which will include a detailed analysis of core business functions. We must view this entrepreneurial initiative as an opportunity to improve by using quality tools such as benchmarking and innovation. Time is of the essence. We need to be entrepreneurial at the organizational level and the individual level.*
>
> *How do we become entrepreneurs? Own and know your business. Don't take anything for granted. Know your customers and your competition. Focus on the results within your department, not the activities. Minimize rework, as it has no value to the organization. And always keep in mind that adding value is what this is all about. We have the tools. All we need to do is use them.*

Feedback drives improvement

Improvement is a key component of Administrative Services' E^2= Q performance excellence initiative—and improvement is dependent on feedback.

Here's an example: Staff of the new campus-based conferencing facility, The Center, invite attendees of various events and activities there to fill out evaluation forms that cover the following areas of service:

- Conference Center facilities (cleanliness, temperature, room set-up, A-V equipment)
- Conference Center staff (assistance, appearance, friendliness)
- Food service (menu selections, quality, temperature, staff efficiency, presentation)

Each category is rated from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent). Additionally, the attendees are asked the following question: **What can we provide that you are not getting from The Center?**

Feedback provided by these evaluations provides, not only an idea of how well The Center is meeting customer expectations, but also suggestions for improvement.

CAMPUS CRIME WATCH

Purdue Calumet crime statistics are reported to the federal government and published periodically in this column. Recent months' reported campus crimes are as follows:

CATEGORY	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Personal Property Theft	1	0	3
Amount of Loss	$400	0	$2,028.90
University Property Theft	0	1	2
Amount of Loss	0	$4,725	$2,000
Vehicle Thefts	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0
RECOVERIES MADE	0	0	0

At a glance

around campus

Three on Three tournament offered at PUC

Club Erector Spinae Universitas will sponsor a three on three basketball tournament Tuesday, March 27 at 6 p.m. The competition is open to all. There is a $20 entry fee and all applications must be turned in by Saturday, March 24. Entry forms are located at the Total Fitness Center in the PER building. For additional information, contact TFC at 989-2175.

METS department makes special offer to SHRM members

The Manufacturing Engineering Technologies and Supervision department is offering to pay one-semester dues to new members of the student chapter of Society for Human Resource Management. This offer only applies to METS majors. For more information, e-mail Michelle at peakmr@calumet.purdue.edu.

Hoosier Adapt offers Online forum

Hoosier Adapt offers a forum and message board that provides a way to communicate with other students to improve the well being of the disabled community on campus. The forum is now available at http://forums.delphi.com/purduestudents/messages/?msg=9.1.

RHIT class presents 'Welcome to Our House' lunches

The Quantity Food Production class will present theme lunches every Wednesday. The theme this semester is "Welcome to Our House." Seating times are at 11:30 a.m., noon and 12:30 p.m. On March 7, the house will be Versailles. For reservations, call Professor Geralyn Farley at 989-2714 on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday.

SGA provides meeting space

The Student Government Association would like to remind the student body that the SGA provides its own senate chambers for any group wishing to assemble. For more information or to reserve the chambers, please contact any SGA member at 989-2394.

PUC Photo Club seeks new members.

Meetings take place every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the south end of the cafeteria, located in the SFLC. For additional information, e-maill pucphotoclub@yahoo.com.

The Region Room presents unique cuisine

The Region Room, along with the Advanced Foods class, presents its spring 2001 dinner calendar. The next dinner is March 21 and the theme is Italian Venetian Night. Reservations begin at 8 a.m. on March 9. For reservations, contact Diana Raceina at 989-2319. Be prepared to select an entree when making your reservation. Seating times are 5:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Price of the weekly dinner is $13.50 (tax included) and the price of the final dinner is $15.00 (tax included).

SHRM announces meeting dates

The Society for Human Resource Management will meet on March 20, April 3, April 17 and May 1.All meetings will take place in Gyte 108 from 5:15 to 6 p.m. All students are welcome.If you are unable to attend, but still wish to participate in activities, e-mail Tony at pucshrmpres@yahoo.com.

SLD offers leadership workshops

Student Leadership Development invites students, faculty and staff to attend its weekly leadership workshops. Workshops will take place in Alumni Hall in the SFLC on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The workshop on March 8 is Teamwork/Flight Simulator (Challenger Center). To register, contact SLD at 989-2369.

Message board offered for students

PUC Students Online is a message board to communicate with each other through posting messages. Those who have never used Delphi.com will need to go through the free registration process before posting. To join, go to http://forums.delphi.com/PurdueStudents/start.

Quote of the Week

'Most men pursue pleasure with such breathless haste that they hurry past it.'

-Soren Kierkegaard
1813-1855

The Chronicle

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Student Organization Profile:

Sigma Lambda Beta

ABIGAIL AVILA
Staff Writer

The Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Inc. was founded on April 4, 1986 at the University of Iowa.

The fraternity is currently coast to coast and have over 60 chapters in 30 states, including Puerto Rico. The fraternity also has 15 colonies, or upcoming chapters.

The brothers of Sigma Lambda Beta all agree that the success of the organization is dependent on the loyalty of the members.

Abad Castellanos, president of Sigma Lambda Beta's PUC chapter, said that the bond is that is formed within the fraternity during their educational process is what attracts people to Sigma Lambda Beta.

The 18 founding fathers of Sigma Lambda Beta founded the fraternity with the following principles in mind: brotherhood, scholarship, cultural awareness and community service.

He said he believes that the members of the PUC chapter, like all Beta brothers, are able to depend on one other for anything because they all share the same commitment to the organization's history and to Hispanic society.

"On the road we see a vision of Latinos communicating with each other and with society as a whole. We see the tremendous importance of working together and eventual promise of the day in which we all can live, work, play and associate with people openly," Castellanos said.

"Sigma Lambda Beta wants and needs to get members that not only look to grow the organization but look to future their own personal growth,"
Orlando Garcia, junior and Sigma Lambda Beta member

Sigma Lambda Beta state a belief in four principles: brotherhood, scholarship, service and cultural awareness.

"Lack of effort from a member is what downplays the growth of a Beta brother due to self alienation," Orlando Garcia, a junior with an undecided major, said.

Garcia also said that before people consider joining an organization, they need to investigate and then decide if they want to deal with the tasks and accomplishments that the organization demands.

"Sigma Lambda Beta wants and needs to get members that not only look to grow the organization but look to future their own personal growth," Garcia said.

The Betas said they are currently working with the not-for-profit organization La Casa to help educate the younger community.

"There are vast amounts of lessons you can learn from joining an organization," Patrick Rodriguez said. "Working with and learning to work with a group I feel was the most beneficial to me."

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

PUC police beat 2/19/01-2/25/01

Monday, Feb. 19, 8:50 p.m. A staff member reported a theft in the Gyte building. A lap top computer was taken.

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2:15 p.m. A staff member reported receiving harassing telephone calls from an estranged spouse. PUC police warned the suspect to stop the harassment.

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 11:05 a.m. A student was nauseous during class in the Gyte building and vomited in the hallway on the way to the restroom. No treatment was required and the student went home.

Saturday, Feb. 25, 11 a.m. A staff member at the Community Center Services Building reported being intimidated by a suspect. The suspect has continually harassed the victim by telephone. Extra security is being provided to the area. This case is under investigation.

Saturday, Feb. 25, 11 a.m. A student reported vehicle damage caused by the P3 lot gate dropping on the car.

Classified

Help Wanted: For 30 years Luke Oil and One Stop Food Marts has expanded its business, becoming known as Northwest Indiana's premier distributor of Petroleum products. Now we are seeking enthusiastic individuals to fill management positions with our expanding company. Manager requirements: This individual must possess the following significant and essential requirements: previous retail or convenience store management experience, excellent people skills, excellent money management skills, strong ethical background, ability to coordinate goals with Associates as well as upper management, independent work, maintain consistent work ethic, must be available 24 hours a day with store hours from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. We offer an excellent compensation package including: competitive salary, profit sharing, medical, dental and vision insurance, 401(k) and vacation. Please fax resume to (219) 962-9529.

Installer wanted for Sound Effects to install car alarms and stereos. Two *locations - Calumet City, IL and Schererville, IN. Call (708) 862-6255 or (219) 322-44FX.* Must have experience.

Truck for sale. 92 GMC 1500. Good and solid truck, $3,000 OBO. Call (219) 210-0579

Successful Highland Indiana law firm looking for enthusiastic students to fill a number of positions. Part-time positions available in filing, data-entry and telephone collection - Monday through Saturday. Work hours are flexible to accommodate class, exam and vacation schedules. For additional information or to schedule an interview, contact Donna Sharp at (219) 924-9820.

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Technology improves spring break

In the age of the Internet, cellular phones, pagers and laptop computers, students often don't think about how these devices can be anything other than entertainment.

Right now, college students all across the nation are preparing for spring break. Some are going to work, others will catch up on sleep and many plan on having an awesome vacation on a sunny beach with friends. Without a little planning and the use of some modern technology, what should be a fun time could turn out to be a nightmare.

With so-called special fares found on the Internet, it is easy to become lured into a scam. This can be avoided by doing your homework on the company you plan to deal with. Call the Better Business Bureau or the Consumer Affairs Department to inquire about the history of a company. If you are talking to a company over the phone and they immediately ask you for your account information, don't give it to them. By giving them your account information, they can deduct money from your account without you knowing it. Always get their information in writing before you give any of your financial information away.

Check that the company has a certified travel conselor or certified travel associate on staff. These designations are *the travel industry's most well-respected and professional* accreditations. These both signify that the professional has completed an academic study program and exam an is required to complete continuing education classes. You can find a CTC or CTA by visiting the Institute of Certified Travel Agent's website at www.icta.com.

After you have decided which company and vacation package to buy, pay by credit card. Paying by credit card can help you build credit and protect you against fraud. If you pay by cash or check you may not be able to get your money back if the company is a scam.

Before you go, do your homework on your destination as well. Most cities have Web sites, so make use of the computer lab on campus and log on to the Internet to find out what your vacation destination will be like.

If you decide to make it a road trip and drive to your destination, take a cellular phone with you. If you become stuck on the side of the road you can use it to call for help. Some companies may have roaming charges, but the extra fees incurred will be worth your safety. Also consider renting a car. It may cost more, but it's a better option it if that old clunker you inherited from your parents isn't up to making the trip.

While on vacation, take a limited amount of money and use traveler's checks or a credit card instead. If you lose money you can't get it back. If you lose traveler's checks or a credit card, you can call the company and stop payment.

Practice common sense while planning for your vacation. It may take a little longer and cause you to do more footwork before you leave, but in the long run it will pay off. You will be able to enjoy the anticipation of your fun in the sun with friends without having to worry about the possibility of being scammed and arriving at your destination with no place to stay. And always remember to wear sunscreen.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification.

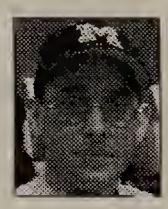
All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.

The People Speak

Question of the Week: Do you have any special plans for spring break?

Orlando Garcia
junior, management
"I'm just going to stay around here and work more hours. I have to try and save up some money."

Bob Howe
junior, finance
"I'm going to Panama City. I plan on hanging out on the Florida beach with my friends."



Justin Mitchell
freshman, CIS
No, just staying home and catching up on school work and sleep."

Mindy Stelter
junior, early childhood development
"Just hanging out with my mom."

Jason Daviera
freshman, management
"I'm going to Cancun with a group of friends from here and West Lafayette."

Samantha Carrell
junior, communication
"I'm going with four of my friends to Cancun, Mexico."

College dating tricky to conquer

U-WIRE

Between the painful years of adolescence and the post-graduate world, the concept of collegiate dating is a science far from perfected. Sure, there are some benefits: no curfews, no parents eavesdropping on the other side of your bedroom door and no awkward obligation to sit next to your significant other at lunchtime.

As opposed to your post-graduate friends, there's no pressure to marry, exhibit stability or have that ever-attractive 401K plan. But collegiate dating is in a realm within its own. A realm that encompasses fraternity parties, Ramen noodles and the fact that upon entering any college or university setting, all students have unwillingly met that hidden requirement to be completely broke.

It's Friday afternoon. You've checked your reflection in the aluminum border surrounding the corkboard in Faculty Hall, your super hot classmate is coming your way and you're ready to ask for the big date. Sure, you're in debt to Visa and the University (not to mention your parents) and you know your roommate won't be leaving the tent he's constructed over his bed for at least the next three days (something about bringing Survivor to the dorms). Nevertheless, you ask for the commitment of a precious block of her Friday night. She accepts. Now you're left with that big question: What do you do? No matter what hints or ideas I propose to you, I know that you're going to choose a dinner and a movie, because no matter how creative, outgoing or caring you are, in the end, all men (and most women) will opt for the dinner and a movie route for the first date. It's just a given.

Forging ahead, should your date work out for the best; here are a few tips to make collegiate dating as comfortable as possible.

First of all, to women: Don't expect flowers or gifts routinely. As stated earlier, all college students are broke. Even if your honey has five jobs for the University, a weekend job at his hometown and stock options with Wal-Mart, the second he steps on a college campus it will be sucked into the black hole where all college students' money goes. Don't argue; don't pester him to get another job. Just resign yourself to this fact. It will make things much easier in the long run.

Men, for the love of God, get the woman a rose every now and then. We both know you eye them at the gas station on occasion with your fraternity buddies when you're paying for your weekly fill-up, but you can't buy it because you will subject yourself to the ultimate ridicule. At some point in your life, another male will witness you purchasing a somewhat sappy gift for a woman. Either take the high road and deal with their macho-men nagging or tell them it's a sure way to get some lovin'. Your woman will appreciate the thought.

Women, as much as we enjoy fantasizing about weekends in Paris, airplane massages or being whisked away to a magical wonderland, understand that it won't be happening anytime soon. We must understand this isn't because we aren't appreciated, but rather because college life just doesn't allot the time or money for it.

Men, we cherish the cartoons you watched as children, but is it really necessary to repeat all of the dialogue? As women, we understand and respect your worship of such nostalgia, but maybe the words "romantic comedy" aren't quite as bad as you thought.

Yes, collegiate dating is hard. Seeing the significant other become an ex-significant other can be almost like divorce. But that's a whole other issue. Ultimately, the goal is to make the experience as painless as possible for both parties. Good luck and good dating.

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Scholarship scams lure hopeful students

U-WIRE

They lure you in with promises of free money, lists of scholarship resources and guaranteed winnings, but in the end you pay the price for failing to sniff out the scam.

Every year an estimated 350,000 students fall victim to the allure of too-good-to-be true offers made by fraudulent scholarship agencies that total $5 million in losses annually, according to the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

"You need to have the most specific information, you need to know you're taking a risk if you can't get a hold of someone," Carol McKay, assistant director of communications for the National Fraud Information Center, said. "I think it's funny a lot of them offer a guarantee."

Upfront fees, requests to disclose credit card or bank account information and guaranteed scholarship awards are signs that a scholarship may be illegitimate.

Checking the source through the Better Business Bureau is the best way to screen questionable scholarships, according to McKay.

"If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is," she said.

Many times, students hire someone to conduct the scholarship search for them, finding information that can be obtained from books, Web sites and campus scholarship facilities.

"There are lots of enterprising people out here who charge a fee for something you could do yourself, but people pay it because they don't have the time," Gail Ishino, assistant director of counseling for UCLA's financial aid office, said. "It's very easy to fall victim to scams."

The problem seems to be tied to the climbing costs of tuition, which has risen 234 percent from 1980 to 1994, according to a report released by the General Accounting Office. During that time, average student loan amounts rose 467 percent.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, the costs of college are mobilizing students to seek more aid, often looking for an easy way out through tempting, but often fraudulent, scholarship offers.

Scam artists are often highly in tune with such trends and wait for the chance to capitalize on a situation when opportunity knocks, according to the FTC.

McKay had her own run-in with a scam that charged her $60 for a list of nonexistent or void scholarships.

"It was a very long list and most of the deadlines had past, most things I didn't even qualify for such as 'Did I have a grandfather on a submarine?'" she said. "I remember sending out letters but I didn't hear from any of them and many of my letters were returned. I think it's a pretty common scam."

Confining searches to on-campus centers and sponsors tends to reduce the risk, according to Ishino.

The Scholarship Resource Center, which has scholarships primarily from outside agencies, provides students with a large collection of books as well as a staff that works to help guide students through the process.

The hunt for scholarships is most prevalent between October and April, since most deadlines fall within this time frame, Beverly Rubin, programmer and analyst for the center, said.

"Our goal is to guide undergraduates through the funding process," Rubin said. "If we ever find anything that looks iffy, it's gone. We're very proactive on that end."

Although UCLA has not had any significant problems with scholarships through the center, Rubin said there have been a few incidents over the past five years that were reported by students. She cautions students to look out for scam signs when searching outside resources.

"For the most part, we try to screen our scholarships pretty carefully," she said. "We're trying to be as organized as possible."

SRC specializes in merit-based scholarships, which differ from the need-based awards given through the financial aid office.

Need-based awards come from donations made to the school. Students may apply by checking off a list of scholarships they wish to apply for on their application.

Other options for students on campus are departmental awards and the College Library, which has an extensive collection of scholarship resources.

Sponsors often make contributions specific to a department, which also enables students to better narrow their search, according to Ishino.

Soe much to say

Photo by Skye Enyeart

Valerie Soe, a Chinese-American filmmaker hailing from San Francisco, opened Women's History Month activities. They were hosted by the Women's Studies *Program at The Center on March 1. The Chinese characters* seen above translate as "innovation."

Spring break

Continued from page 1

the beginning of spring. Students around campus are hoping that spring break does not fly by.

"I am in high hopes that spring break does not pass by when I blink. I need this time to myself to relieve some of the stress from schoolwork and tests," Norris said.

"The break had better go slowly. Even though I may not get to do anything exciting and fun might have to work all week, it is still a time for people to catch up on sleep and relax some," Mauch said. "I just need a break from the constant studying and I am sure everyone else does too."

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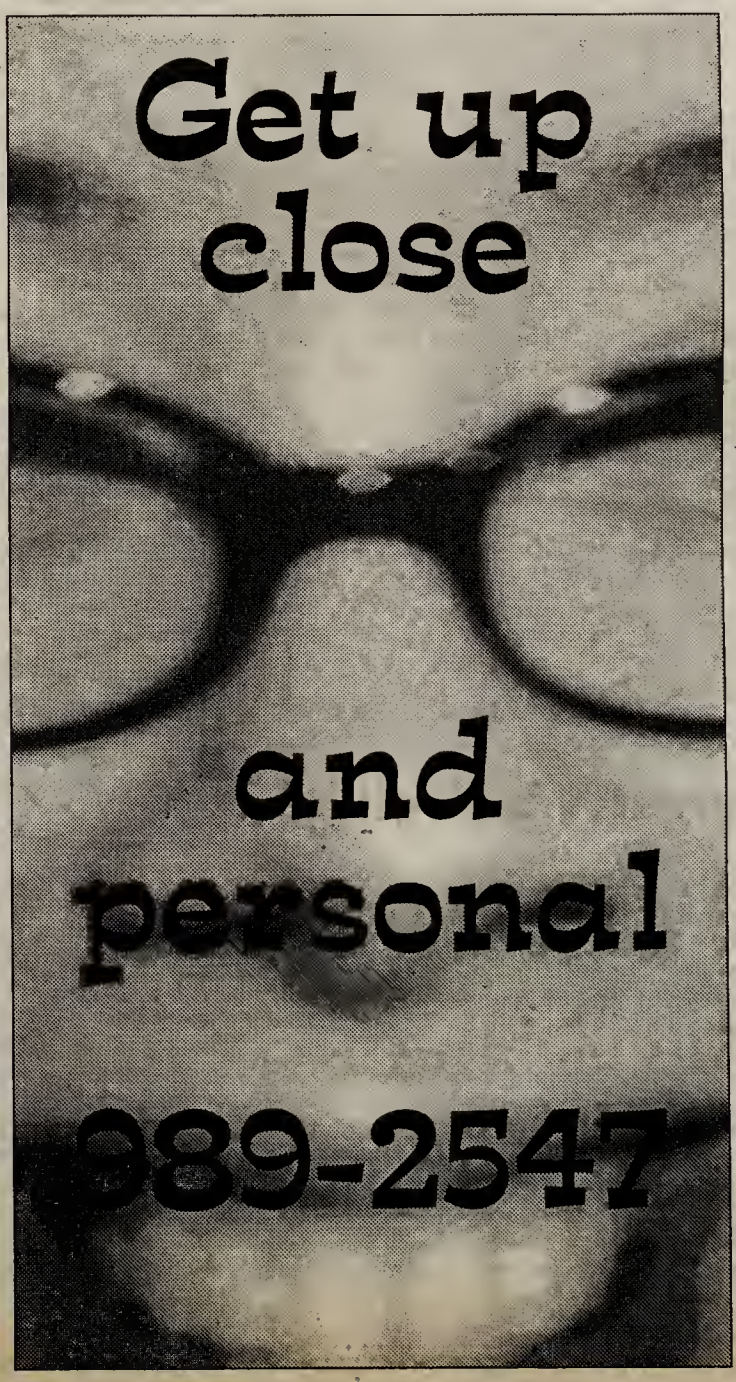

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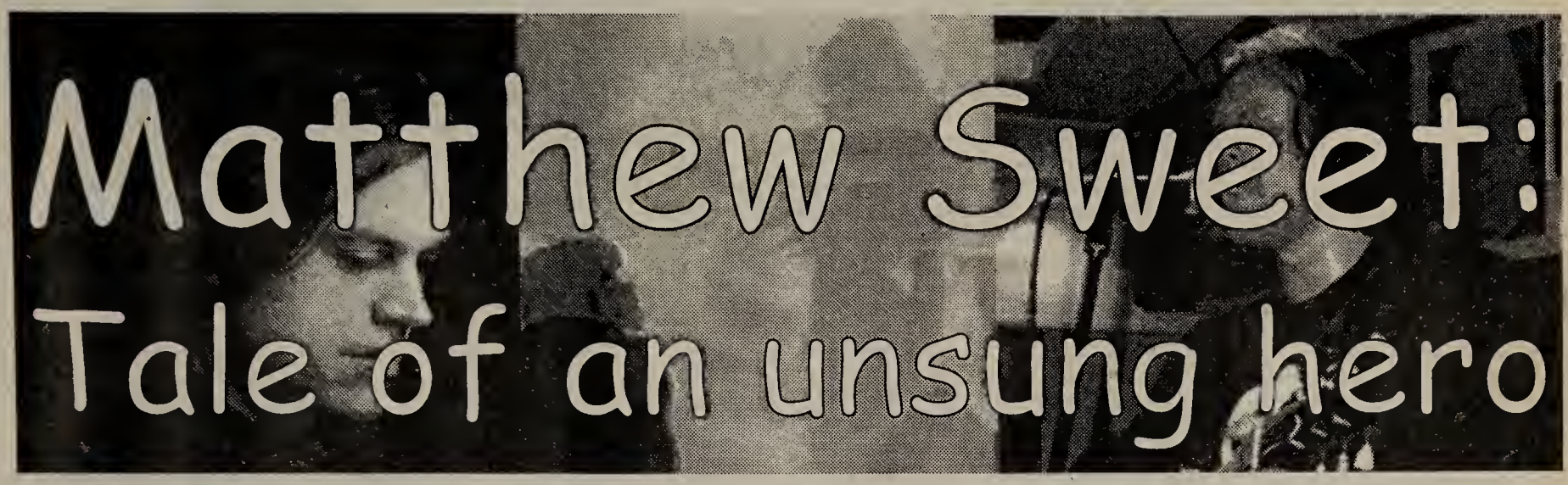


Matthew Sweet: Tale of an unsung hero

JAMES E. LACZKOWSKI
Staff Writer

AMY AURELIO
Production Manager

Back in 1992 when MTV didn't suck, a video came on in the middle of a sequence of mediocre videos on "120 Minutes." The song was Matthew Sweet's "Girlfriend," and it combined anime visuals with the best melody heard in eons.

It was the epitome of great, solid "pop" rock, evocative of Neil Young and even hints of The Beatles and The Beach Boys.

Matthew Sweet, a shaggy-haired 27-year-old Nebraska native, had emerged as one of the freshest talents in rock. His voice was simple yet his harmonies were layered and complex. Most importantly, his lyrics were heartfelt and honest, which gave his breakthrough album, "Girlfriend," resonance. He adhered to certain conventions such as the old verse/chorus/verse standard of songwriting, yet he tested out various styles of instrumentation. As a result, his songs remained emotionally pure.

Before his Feb.23 concert at Chicago's *Metro, we spoke to Sweet about his career* as well as his personal views on the current state of affairs in music. As a true artist who has consistently maintained his own unique sound, Sweet has never lost sight of what really matters in music today.

What were the albums that changed your life?

I really liked The Beatles' "Revolver" and The Beach Boys' "Pet Sounds" especially.

What inspired you to become a musician?

Really, the inspiration for me when I started writing songs was more of a new wave era right from when I was a teenager. I would say Elvis Costello and Nick Lowe. They were like really huge for me.

What invigorates you to write a song? What keeps you motivated?

Songwriting for me is very emotionally based. It's really what kind of mood I'm in, and it's what keeps me going.

That's what's really missing from music nowadays.

Most of it's based on rhythm and sound impact. Then what I'm talking about, more about heart expression and that sort of thing. That's the kind of songs I sort of like, more personal and direct sort of stuff. For me, when I really started writing and stuff, it wasn't because I wanted to be like I am now and be a solo artist go out and tour and do everything. That was really far from my mind. More of it was like I liked music and hated the rest of life. I used it as a lot of self-therapy. The best stuff is like that.

Would you say that all your music is derived from personal life experience?

Well, I don't think lyrically it's separate and there's lots of situations in the songs that did not really that happened to me or any situation I was really in, but some of them, more than others, touch on real situations, but mostly it's more the emotions than the literal explanations that were taken from my life.

Do you ever get frustrated with yourself because of record sales? "Blue Sky on Mars," I felt was underrated. I don't know why it wasn't as successful as the others.

That record does kind of remind me of "Altered Beast" 'cause it sort of started to get people thinking it's cool now. It was sort of hated at the time, it's like a favorite record of mine for a lot of my fans. It wasn't like that when it came out. It was "not as good as 'Girlfriend.'"

It was a lot darker, which is why I kind of like it.

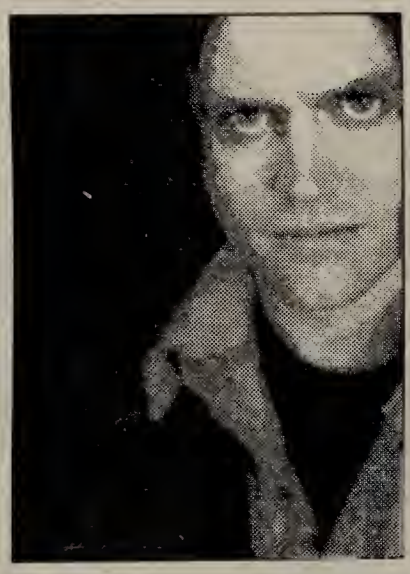
Yeah, it was kind of a messy, dark, weird record.

It seemed more like you were branching out, which is what really intrigued me about it.

"Blue Sky on Mars" was a really simple record, it was sort of like my new wave record. The time it came out was sort of the beginning of the whole every single song has the hip-hop loop. I see that so much now.

That was the beginning of when my contract was being sold around to the various people who owned over the last three or four years now. So we didn't have as good of commitment and grass roots kind of working as a record from that point on either. So that kind of makes it more of a sleeper. "In Reverse" is the one I really like. I'm excited about it because there's a lot in it and kind of, and it's really known less than "Blue Sky On Mars." Now I feel it's kind of like a time capsule waiting there to sort of be discovered.

"I love cool sounding things and all that but I think as I get older I care more and more about the songs and the core of where it's coming from,"
Matthew Sweet



"In Reverse" encapsulates you perfectly. The song "Thunderstorm" has got everything that's great about your music. I was taken aback by "In Reverse" because you were not only branching out musically but just by the way it's produced. You've got that whole Phil Spector sound going for it.

We tried making it kind of a deluxe record, and uh, the problem with In Reverse isn't the same as "Blue Sky on Mars." "Blue Sky on Mars," people knew about it. There was like a single that did really well, "Where You Get Love," and there was a video and normal things.

Although there were no videos for "In Reverse," the song "What Matters" was played a lot on XRT.

That's because it's Chicago and you have to realize that "In Reverse" did really well in Chicago compared to everywhere else because we have really good radio here and the big stations really played "What Matters" so that makes all the difference. In general, the rest of the country, it didn't really get much play. So it's kind of like I sustained in this area. Radio-wise the record did much better in Chicago than anywhere else.

Do you think that "Girlfriend" was meant to be a concept album about the ups and downs of being in a relationship?

I really did not. I think it was sort of circumstantial in that way. What happened with my records, it's so much dictated by what the songs are than anything else. I usually do very little intellectualizing about what they should be or how it should go together. That stuff kind of tends to happen magically.

What would you say is your number one goal as a songwriter and a performer?

Um, I think it's just to write songs that somebody cares about. Write songs where someone hears them and it means something to them beyond just the moment of sound or whatever. I love cool sounding things and all that but I think as I get older I care more and more about the songs and the core of where it's coming from. Maybe partly because it's just so gone in general.

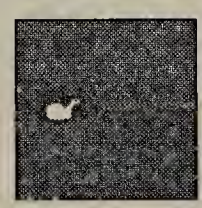
Look at what's popular now. It's really sad.

It's so much more about the posing and the look or the flavor of the minute sound. As a musician, you have to want to go out and fight and connect with people and make it work or else if you don't want to you'll fall right off the side. It's just the way the world works. For me, it's to keep my drive to write and want to connect.

For a full-length version of this interview, check out The Chronicle Web site at http://www.pucchronicle.

The Matthew Sweet Discography

"Girlfriend" **(1991)**
Features "Girlfriend," "Divine Intervention" and "I've Been Waiting"



"Altered Beast" **(1993)**
Features "Someone to Pull the Trigger," "The Ugly Truth" and "Falling"

"Son of the Altered Beast" **(E.P.) (1994)**
Features "Ultrasuede" (outtake) and "Superdeformed" (live)

"100% Fun" **(1995)**
Features "Sick of Myself," "I Almost Forgot" and "Walk Out"

"Blue Sky on Mars" **(1997)**
Features "Come to California," "Over it" and "Hollow"

"In Reverse" **(1999)**
Features "What Matters," "Thunderstorm" and "If Time Permits"

"Time Capsule: The Best of Matthew Sweet" **(2000)**
Features "The Ugly Truth" (acoustic) and "So Far"

Visit the Official
Matthew Sweet Web site at
www.matthewsweet.com

Dave Matthews breaks new ground with 'Everyday' sound

SEAN MICHAEL WALCZAK
Staff Writer

If you are expecting the same old Dave Matthews Band we've all come to know and love, you may be in for a few surprises with their fourth studio album, "Everyday," which came out on Feb. 27. None of the songs from their summer tour are in the album, which may or may not be shocking to you.

When Matthews first started writing the new album, he was in a depressed state. He was feeling gloomy and it affected the album. "Dave was at a breaking point," says drummer Carter Beauford in March's edition of "Rolling Stone."

"You could see it. We would be in the studio working on a tune, and then, all of a sudden, he would get up and not say anything and shove his guitar to the side and go outside," Beauford said.

Matthews then found himself flying to Los Angeles to meet with producer Glen Ballard. "I didn't want to be someone who writes about how sad I am. I'd rather write about those same topics, but with more momentum," Matthews said.

That first meeting with Ballard not only changed Matthew's attitude, but the band's recording style, as well.

In the past, Matthew's would usually show the guys something and they would jam out their parts, but to the shock of his band mates, synthesizers and drum-machines already wrote their parts.

Matthews playing electric guitar is another one of those surprises. In their past three albums, he has mostly used his acoustic guitar. Many of the band's fans may have noticed when the first single, "I Did It," hit radio in early January, that their sound had changed considerably, using many multi-tracks and more band members singing.

You will only hear the band's usual acoustic sound on four of the 12 tracks on the album, including the songs "Mother, Father," with a not too surprising appearance by Carlos Santana, and "Everyday."

CD	"Everyday"
Artist	Dave Matthews Band
Rating	9 of 10

This isn't necessarily a bad thing, but it is something to get used to. The lyrics are still great as ever. "Everyday" is a very diverse album, with each track having its own creative magic. The best tracks of the CD being "So Right," "Mother Father," "The Space Between" and "What You Are."

Some fans might find the track "Everyday" very familiar. That's because it is blended with an older Dave Matthews Band song, "36."

"I think it is some of the best songs he has every written" Beauford said in an interview on the official web site www.dmband.com. Dave, who usually does the majority of an album's vocals alone, is not the only member singing.

"We're all singing and stepping up front, and we're having a lot of fun playing," Matthews said backstage at the My VH1 Music Awards in Los Angeles. "I'm also playing a baritone, which is a lot of fun. It's a real up album. It's definitely us, but it's fresh. ... There's a lot of really great aggressive but positive music on it."

Dave Matthews Band hasn't changed completely however. When they were first making a name for themselves, they used tape-trading to get the band's sound around.

For the year 2001, they made use of some of the new millennium's technology.

They made history by releasing the single "I Did It" via Napster. The group was the first major label act to do so with its label's permission.

The band, which began offering the song on its own Web site, wanted its Napster-using fans to have a clean version of the song, since several poor-quality recordings of the tune that were taped off radio had surfaced on the service.

Using a lot of input from Matthews, it is one of the funniest and visually stunning videos from the band in a long time. So if you want to see it, you'll have to log on your computer and vote for the video on MTV's Total Request Live or VH1's Top 10.

When listening to the whole album, you can definitely tell the boys had a great time recording this album with each other and their new producer. Their spring/summer tour starts in April. I think fans are in for a real treat.

I can't wait to hear these songs live. If you haven't bought the album yet, then I strongly recommend that you do.

Selick hits a funny 'Monkeybone'

JAMES E. LACZKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Let me preface this review by saying that I couldn't bear sitting through "3000 Miles to Graceland."

The first half of it was the most painful experience I've ever had sitting in a theater.

I despised it so much that I walked out on it after 20 minutes and opted to check out "Monkeybone" instead.

At the time, it was like deciding what I liked better: getting shards of glass stuck in my eyes or diving naked into a swimming pool of razor blades.

But that's my job, to sit through crappy films so I can warn others not to.

Movie	"Monkeybone"
Actor	Brendan Fraser
Rating	7 of 10

To my surprise, "Monkeybone" is one of only two memorable times I've had at the theater this year. ("Traffic" and "Crouching Tiger" both count for 2000).

"Monkeybone" is one of those movies that I would label a "guilty pleasure." Yes, I know it's idiotic and tasteless, but I can't argue with the fact that I had a great time watching it.

Think of "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" on acid or "Sesame Street" meets "The Cell" and you're only halfway to its level of eccentricity. The one thing that needs to be cleared up is that Tim Burton has nothing to do with this movie. The trailers lead people to believe otherwise. In just about every ad, there's always the mention of "Monkeybone" being from the director of "Nightmare before Christmas," which is true.

However, Tim Burton only wrote "Nightmare before Christmas;" Henry Selick actually directed it.

So, if you are a Tim Burton fan, don't walk into "Monkeybone" expecting to see "Sleepy Hollow" or "Edward Scissorhands."

What you can expect are echoes of Tim Burton's manic visual style, mostly evocative of "Beetlejuice." What truly carries "Monkeybone" beyond any recent Hollywood production are the elaborate set designs, costumes and dream sequences that will leave you dazed and more than confused. I don't ever need to experience LSD because I sat through "Monkeybone."

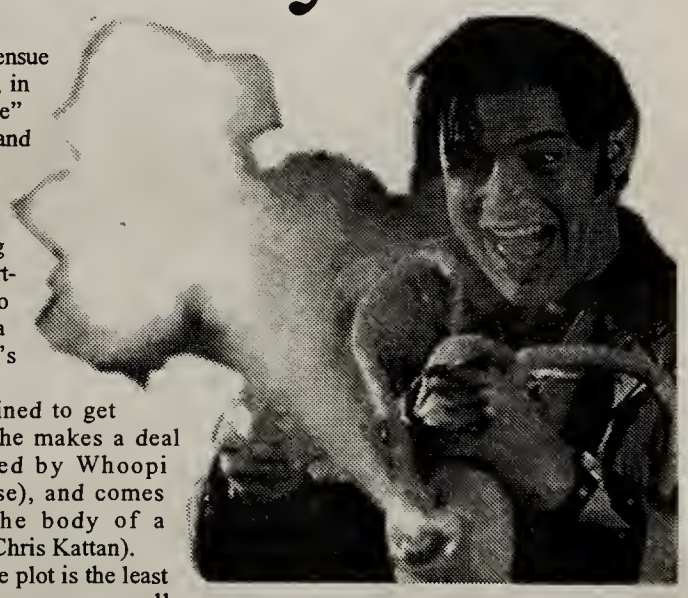
"Monkeybone" is based on a cult graphic novel called "Dark Town" written by Kaja Blackley and illustrated by Vanessa Chong. The incredibly talented Brendan Fraser plays Stu Miley, a respected cartoonist who is stuck in a coma thanks to a bizarre car accident.

While he's unconscious, Miley is trapped in a sinister underworld called Downtown, which is surrounded by a number of grotesque creatures of his own creation—including the title character, a nasty, hyperactive little orange monkey.

Downtown is a land of nightmares, inhabited by a disturbing, dark carnival ambiance. Bridget Fonda is Miley's dream psychologist/girlfriend, determined to wake him from his coma. What does ensue is the old switcheroo, in which "Monkeybone" steals Miley's body and journeys back up to reality. Now "Monkeybone" lives in Miley's body acting out all his sick, perverted fantasies, and no longer stuck being a figment of someone's imagination.

Miley is determined to get back his body, so he makes a deal with Death (played by Whoopi Goldberg, of course), and comes back to life in the body of a deceased gymnast (Chris Kattan).

Confused yet? The plot is the least of concerns. As long as you really don't pay attention to it, and just enjoy the visual reconstruction of Miley's twisted thoughts, you'll have a blast.



Brendan Fraser stars in Henry Selick's comedy, "Monkeybone."

The real fun begins when "Monkeybone" is living in the real world. Most of the laughs come from watching Brendan Fraser go insane. When Fraser is the main star in even the dumbest movie, his fast, fearless comedic performances save them from being a waste-of-time. If you look at his last three films, "Blast from the Past," "Dudley Do-Right" and "Bedazzled," you'll see that even with a ridiculous concept, Fraser makes each role his own. He's also possibly the most unpretentious actor on the planet. Give him time; he'll be up for a Screen Actors Guild award once he ventures out of the slapstick routine that he built his niche in.

Director Henry Selick's vision is superb and twisted. Anyone who enjoys Roald Dahl's work should really get a kick of this. It's wildly eccentric, visually creative and moves at a break-neck pace.

Yes, it's nothing more than a celebration of juvenile stupidity, but every now and then, I can go for something other than an art film. If you want to leave your brain at home, and laugh yourself stupid, then look no further. "Monkeybone" will certainly satisfy your funny bone.

Alumni teach faculty a lesson

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

Every homecoming marks a tradition that keeps PUC students coming back for more.

Indeed, that's the case for a number of PUC alumni who journey to back the campus on homecoming Saturday to take part in the annual alumni-faculty basketball game.

With a little more than 20 participates taking part in the Feb. 17 fun, the afternoon brought a yearly reunion, in addition to business on the hardwood.

"It's competitive out there, but it's good to see old friends and also to see how old we have gotten," Mike Guevara, president of the Purdue Alumni Association Calumet, said.

Guevara puts together this game every year and coaches the alumni team.

Although a good-sized crowd turns out every year, he said, more exposure could help at anytime.

"We are always increasing awareness for this event," he said.

Tipping-off in between the doubleheader of the Lady Lakers and Lakers games, the alumni team went on top early with an 8-0 run.

Towards the end of the first half, the plot twisted and the faculty responded as they came-up with a four-point lead at halftime. Besides the faculty, some current PUC students took part in the game and together helped build the lead.

"If we want to win, we'll have to step it up on defense and play more offense," PUC senior Ken Curry said at halftime.

"I think we have the juice to take on the alumni in the second half," Curry, a computer programming major, said. He had 17 points in the first 20 minutes.

Play resumed with the faculty looking to nail the victory. However, any lead they had began to sink. Within six minutes remaining, the alumni tied the game at 47 a piece as three-point shooting had shut down any defense on the other side of the ball.

One minute later, another three proved to be all that the alumni needed, as they ended-up winning the game 58-54.

"We all played hard, we had a big lead early, but after halftime we put it together," PUC alum Ruben Hernandez, who graduated two years ago, said.

Still, everyone who came out played with pride and took much enjoyment of the fun on the court at any cost.

"I enjoyed playing, but I'm out of shape, so it's tough to move up and down," Fred Dixon, a 1992 PUC graduate, said.

While it seems that most alumni did not have far to travel to make it to this yearly tradition, others made quite a trip.

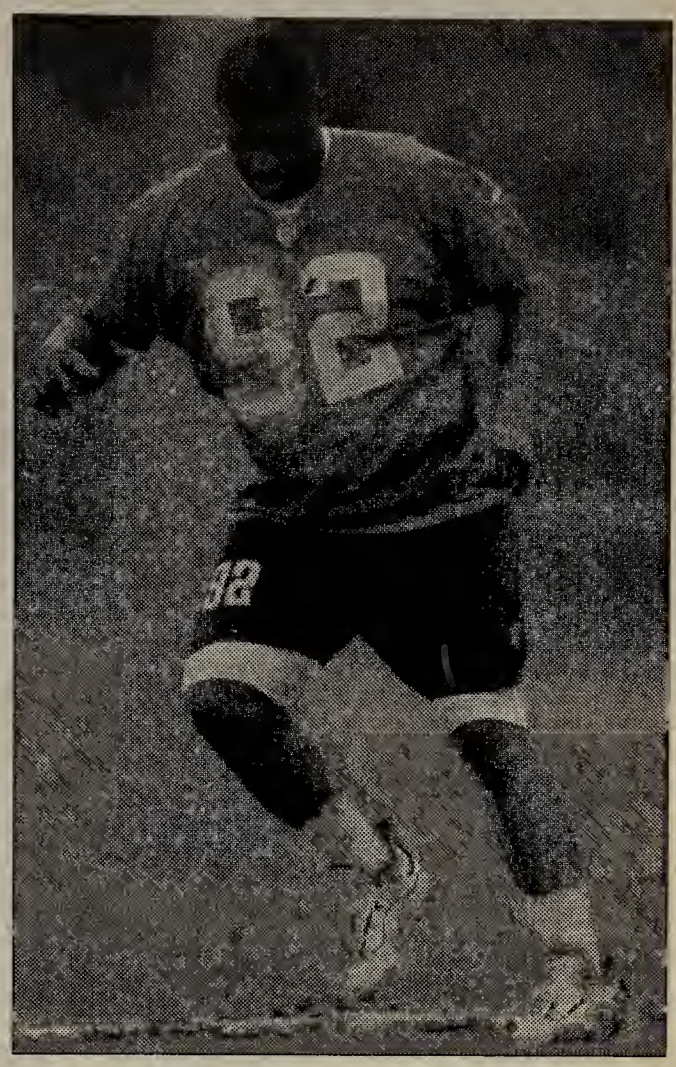
Such was the case with Dwayne Washington, a 1990 graduate who flew in from his home in Atlanta to be a part of the game.

"It's an annual event; it gives me a chance to have a good time," he said.

Both Washington and Dixon played for the Lakers while students at PUC.

While many of the PUC alumni and faculty face each other every year, they do so not only as friendly competitors on the court, but as part of a tradition as well.

Drillin' it in South Carolina



The Carolina Panthers' Reggie White runs through a drill as he begins his first practice at the team's training camp at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C. on Monday, July 24, 2000.

White came out of retirement to sign with the Panthers but retired again Thursday, March 1. This is his third retirement from football in three years. He retired one day before the 1998 season and again after the 1998 season.

White, 39, holds the record for most sacks in the league with 198.

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Lakers work hard in basketball tournament

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

The PUC Lady Lakers traveled to Chicago's St. Xavier on February 24 to open up the CCAC tournament against the Cougars in elimination round. However, it would also mean the closing stage of PUC's season as they went down into defeat with an 80-64 loss, falling to 5-26 overall all on the year (2-9 in CCAC play). Despite Sarah Bacan's Lady Laker leading 18 points, followed-up by Melissa Austin's 12, Dawn Szany's 14, and Christina Chandler's 11; ball control became a problem. The Cougars took advantage with 25 points coming off the 24 PUC turnovers for the game as the Lady Lakers sought their 2000-2001 campaign come to an end.

Coming off a 3-game losing streak, the PUC mens' Lakers went into the CCAC tournament on the road against the Barat Bulldogs on February 27. With both teams even-up at 35 going into halftime, the Lakers responded in the second half and went on to win 86-83 snapping the losing streak and securing a spot in the semi-final round. Senior Jeff Pogose had a game high 17 points including hitting five of six 3-point attempts. Ryan Sexson posted 16 points, seven rebounds, and four assist while Dion Banks had 15 points, six boards, and eight assist. Tom Cuozzo, Drew Hall, and Travis Schmidt came-up with eight points apiece and the three combined on 18 rebounds.

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